

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification has been revised to include headings where appropriate.

Claims 1-6 have been canceled without prejudice and replaced by new Claims 7-12. It is submitted that Claims 7-12 are in proper format under 35 U.S.C. 112 and are not anticipated by published U.S. Patent Application No. US2003/0013464, Jean Henry-Labordere for the reasons set forth below.

Jean Henry-Labordere discloses a method for handling short messages under phone number portability between several communications networks where the phone numbers do not permit an unambiguous linkage of the user to a specific telecommunication network. A computer is utilized which has SS7 connections capable of interrogating all of the HLRs of the country in which the number portability is operated. The computer has a cache memory for storing all the mobile subscribers of the country in which the portability procedure is functional so that it will know which HLR to interrogate, without searching, once it has found the respective HLR the first time. The cache memory is initially empty and is progressively built by HLR searches performed whenever a subscriber is not yet registered in the cache memory or the subscriber has changed subscriber networks.

Since Jean-Henry Labordere requires a large cache memory which stores routing information of all mobile subscribers of the particular country, this procedure requires additional storage capacity and maintenance for many thousands of entries in the short message service center. In contrast, the invention defined by Claim 7 is a method for the delivery of short messages in which delivery parameters or data representing required information for delivery are stored together with the short message in a short message service center so that they can be reused, at least in part, in subsequent attempts at delivery. If the short message is successfully delivered, either initially or after one or more subsequent attempts, the short message and the parameters or data required for delivery are erased. Thus, the storage capacity requirements and maintenance are significantly reduced. Because Jean Henry-Labordere does not disclose all of the elements set forth in independent Claims 7 and 12 and differs significantly from the subject matter thereof, it is submitted that Claims 7-12 are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by this reference.

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It is believed that the application is in condition for allowance but if the Examiner believes that further discussion would be helpful in expediting prosecution, it is requested that he telephone the undersigned at 260-460-1692.

Respectfully submitted,

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JOHN F. HOFFMAN, REG. NO. 26,280

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

November 9, 2005

Date